

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

DENNIS UNSWORTH
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
FAX (406) 444-1643

1205 EIGHTH AVENUE
PO BOX 202401
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

Notice Concerning

Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission

On January 21, 2010, the United States Supreme Court invalidated a federal law which prohibited corporations and unions from using corporate funds to make independent expenditures advocating the election or defeat of a federal candidate.

The Court upheld disclosure and disclaimer requirements for independent expenditures.

The case did not address the prohibition on corporate contributions to federal candidates, campaign committees, or political parties.

Montana law ([§ 13-35-227, MCA](#)) prohibits corporate campaign contributions and independent expenditures from corporate funds in state campaigns. Montana law allows contributions and expenditures from segregated funds (or PACs) consisting of voluntary contributions from corporate shareholders, employees, and members.

Montana's law has not been challenged and remains in effect.